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U.S. Pat. App. Ser. No. 10/581,989  
Attorney Docket No. 1717552

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Patent Application of:	)	Examiner:	Willie Wendell BERRY Jr.
Thomas GROSS	)	Group Art Unit:	3652
International Appln. No. PCT/AT2004/000419	)	Confirmation No.:	1863
Serial No.: 10/581,989	)		
Filing Date: February 26, 2007	)		
For: METHOD FOR REMOVAL OF	)		
MATERIAL MINED UNDERGROUND	)		
AND DEVICE FOR CARRYING OUT	)		
SAID METHOD	)		

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**FILED VIA FACSIMILE TO 571-273-8300**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

With an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136(a) hereby requested, the following is filed in timely response to the final Office Action mailed on March 8, 2011, wherein the Examiner:

1. Rejected Claims 1-3, 5-10, 12, 14, 16, 17, 19, and 20 under Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee, U.S. Patent No. 2,507,341.
2. Determined that Claims 4, 11, 13, 15, and 18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following amendments and remarks are submitted in response.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.

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